SEPTEMBER

at the

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 8:15 p.m.
Place: Morrison Auditorium
Subject: "THE SEA OF CORTEZ"

As the membership is already aware, the Academy took part in a collecting and photographing expedition during late June and early July of this year to many of the islands in the Gulf of California.

With pride, we are able to announce the premiere showing of the first hour-long film documentary ever produced by the Academy, one devoted to scientific exploration in a faraway place featuring many members of the Academy staff. The color-sound film follows the party as it proceeded southward aboard the "Marisla", stopping at various islands. Collecting techniques are observed on both land and in the sea as well as the preparation of specimens taken in the field. The result is a cinematic documentation of one of the prime purposes of the Academy - the search for scientific information.

Joining the Academy in the expedition were the San Diego Natural History Museum and the Instituto de Biologia, Mexico. It was supported by the Belvedere Scientific Fund and other friends of the Academy.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"MOON LANDING!", Morrison's summer spectacular, continues through Labor Day, September 7. Beginning September 9 and playing through October 4:

"FACT AND FANTASY IN THE SKY", an examination of many of the strange legends and odd superstitions which surround some of our neighbors in space. With "Fact and Fantasy", Morrison Planetarium reverts to its fall schedule: Daily at 3:30 p.m., with evening performances, Wednesday through Sunday, at 8:30 p.m. Extra matinees Saturday and Sunday at 2:00. The Planetarium is closed Monday and Tuesday evenings.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

Exhibit of the Month: "STARFISH" from the Academy collections. Main Foyer, Science Museum.

"LIFE BENEATH THE SEA", subaqueous color photographs by Nate Lawrence and Helmut Stellrecht, continues in Lovell White Hall of Man and Nature through Labor Day. Beginning September 15:

"FLOWER PORTRAITS", water colors by Ethelynde Smith. This exhibit will continue through the month of November.

"SCIENCE IN ACTION"

During the second week in September, the Academy's prize-winning television series will return to the air. Now in its fifteenth season and telecast internationally, the program is sponsored in northern California by Wells Fargo Bank and the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. who will bring it not only to San Francisco and the Bay Area, but to Eureka, Fresno, Monterey, Redding and Sacramento.

See your television listings for time and station. The first program, in color, is entitled "Space Photography" and features Guest Scientist Carl N. Brewster of Aerospace Corporation.

NEWS and NOTES .....

At a meeting held July 15, the 1964 Nominating Committee of the Academy's Board of Trustees presented the following roster of nominees to serve on the Board for the next five years: Mrs. Ernest R. Lilienthal, Mrs. Joseph A. Moore, Jr., Mr. Gregory A. Harrison, Dr. A. Starker Leopold, and Dr. Ira L. Wiggins.

These nominations will be acted upon at the 1964 Annual meeting of the Academy scheduled for Wednesday evening, October 7.

Steinhart Aquarium's senior employee, John McKenna, Aquarium Exhibit Preparator, retired in July after having served the Academy for an impressive 31 years. During those three decades, Mr. McKenna made his "know-how" felt in every aspect of the Aquarium. At one time or another, he was collector, aquarist, engineer, designer, carpenter, plumber - and other miscellaneous positions too numerous to mention. In fact it has been said of John that "he's done everything around Steinhart except put a glass eye in a fish!"

His immediate supervisor, Dr. Earl S. Herald, has reason to rue John's retirement. "He's the only man in the world who knows every foot of the six miles of pipe in the Aquarium and the many bits and pieces of operating equipment not shown on the blueprints. I don't know what we'll do without him!"

Good luck, John, and happy days ahead!

The staff of Morrison Planetarium wishes to announce two different astronomy courses which will be presented beginning in mid-September:

ASTRONOMY APPRECIATION. September 14 through December 14. Monday evenings, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. A fourteen week course designed to acquaint the layman with the magnificence of our universe. This non-mathematical course will include use of the star projector to demonstrate many astronomical concepts. Enrollment for the course is $15. Registration at the first three meetings.

CELESTIAL NAVIGATION. September 15 through January 12. Tuesday evenings, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. A sixteen week course in the principles of celestial navigation and nautical astronomy for the beginner. Enrollment for the course is $20 plus $8 for supplies. Registration at the first three meetings.

By action of the Science Council, the following appointments or changes in title are announced: Mr. J. Stuart Rowley has been named Research Associate in the Department of Ornithology; Mr. Steven C. Anderson has been appointed Assistant Curator in the Department of Herpetology; and Mr. Glenn Burghardt has received the new title of Assistant Curator of Aquatic Biology.

RECENT SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

OCCASIONAL PAPERS:

"The Pinacate Region, Sonora, Mexico." Ronald L. Ives. No. 47. August 28, 1964. $1.25.

IT REALLY HAPPENED: Dr. Robert T. Orr, Curator of Birds and Mammals, was running late for an appointment and doing his utmost to leave the Department without further interruption. The telephone rang and was answered by Mrs. Jacqueline Shonewald, Technical Assistant. "This lady," she said to Dr. Orr, "is confident there is a passenger pigeon in her backyard." "Good!" replied Dr. Orr, gathering up his brief case. "Tell her I am just on my way to Stow Lake to snare some great auks!"

Meet the Staff

THOMAS M. GATES, Assistant Manager of the Alexander F. Morrison Planetarium, is a native Washingtonian, having spent his early years in Pomeroy. For his college training he matriculated at Washington State University at Pullman. Six years later he had not one but two Bachelor of Arts degrees - in music and in mathematics - plus a teaching credential in both subjects.

When he was a child, Tom's mother fostered his interest in astronomy. With their personal telescope, they spent hours searching the sky. This interest was channeled further at WSU where the Chairman of the Department of Mathematics and astronomer in his own right, Dr. Sidney Hacker, recognized Tom's special abilities and took him on as assistant in the Department. Concurrently, he was drum major for the marching band and playing trombone and singing for dance dates with a small, all-college combo. During college, he was elected to Omicron Delta Kappa, a leadership society.

From October, 1962 until June, 1963, he was an astronomer at the Pacific Science Center in Seattle (formerly the U.S. Science Exhibit at the Century 21 Exposition). The summer of 1963 found him at the Academy where he lectured in Morrison and assisted in various technical capacities.

Recently married to his college sweetheart Joan (they met in the marching band), Tom assumed his present position at the CAS in June of this year.

Records, chess, model airplanes, William Wordsworth, musical "jam sessions," and singing popular tunes in a better-than-average baritone are a few of Tom's outside interests.

Presently, he is occupied in writing new shows for the Planetarium and designing some of the special effects that will highlight them. "The record-breaking attendance in Morrison for the past two summers is a definite challenge," he remarked. "We are going to bend every effort to top our own records the year 'round."

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

Regular Membership

Mr. Donald Aguilar
Mr. W. G. Blackwell
Mr. W. R. Brown
Mr. David G. Champion
Mrs. Virginia R. Davidson
Mr. John E. Ebbesen
Miss Margaret A. Fraher
Mrs. H. M. Galliver
Mr. John O. Gantner, Jr.
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Mrs. Elizabeth Javens
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Mr. Jerry Mordasini
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Mrs. Bette Ann Pforr
Postel & Parma Price
Miss M. Virginia Reynolds
Mrs. Nathan C. Sweet
Mr. George Thomas
Mr. Arlie L. Toulouse
Miss Trude Anne Xanders

Dr. V. A. Zullo

Family Membership

Dr. & Mrs. John F. Drew
Mr. Fred F. Fischer
Mr. J. A. Mcquown
Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Morris
Dr. Bruce Sams, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Jan E. Stroth
Mr. Donald S. Toomb, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Frederic M. Trevitt

Annual Sponsor

Mr. Bruce Markham

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Mr. John A. McCarthy

Student Members

Peter Alpert
Michelle Caugant
Claudia Deutsch
James Bonilla
Dan Campbell
Peter Ohm

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ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Academy NEWSLETTER

No. 297 - Published Monthly by the
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
GOLDEN GATE PARK
SAN FRANCISCO 18
SEPTEMBER 1964